



# FEMA

## *CCRFCD Projects Prove Successful Clark County Regional Flood Control*

**Las Vegas, NV** - On July 8, 1999, the City of Las Vegas experienced the worst flash flood in its history. The storm damaged 360 structures: 85% owner occupied and 80% low income. Among those most heavily impacted was a large mobile home park.

The Clark County Regional Flood Control District responsibilities are: (a) to develop a coordinated and comprehensive master plan to solve flooding problems, (b) to regulate land use in flood hazard areas, (c) to fund and coordinate the construction of flood control facilities, and (d) to develop and contribute to the funding of a maintenance program for master plan flood control facilities. At the time of the flash flooding, one third of the master plan had been implemented. "What's in place worked!" stated Kevin Eubanks, P.E., Assistant General Manager for the district. The projects were tested by the flash flooding of July 8.

The mitigation projects include both the Flood Threat Recognition System (FTRS) and the Capital Improvement Program. The FTRS was one of the first major components implemented as part of the master plan. It was in place throughout the Las Vegas Valley, measuring rainfall and activating a warning that is immediately communicated to the flood control district staff. Staff can assess the potential for flooding and begin alerting public works and other emergency response personnel. The District maintains modems to provide local governmental agencies with access to the FTRS.

The Capital Improvement Program, includes the construction projects, which are prioritized according to the potential of providing the greatest protection against threat to life and property. Two of the completed detention basins, Oakey and Gowan, clearly demonstrated successful mitigation during the flash flood. The basins, both located in high-density urban areas within the Las Vegas, filled to near capacity and protected adjacent residential communities from inundation.

Additionally, there is a plan for the media to be alerted to begin broadcasting watch and or warning information to the public, giving critical real-time attention to the flood event that aided in minimizing loss of life and property. The July 8th flash flood fully tested the completed portions of this project.



Clark County,  
Nevada



### Quick Facts

Sector:

**Public**

Cost:

**\$1,200,000,000.00 (Estimated)**

Primary Activity/Project:

**Flood Control**

Primary Funding:

**State sources**